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that it should be strongly emphasized. Professor Lamprecht, while recognizing, as in his chapters on Luther, the presence of ideal and personal factors, is yet inclined to explain too much, if not everything, by the social-economic organization. Why was it that the use of the money-economy did not coincide in Germany, as it did in other countries, with national consolidation? Must we not seek the answer in considerations of race-characteristics and the inherited difficulties that beset the kingship,—that is in ethnic and political rather than in economic causes?

But it must not be inferred that the work is a materialistic polemic, like Buckle's civilization. On the contrary, the author often tantalizes us with a bare statement of some application of his thesis, without connecting it with the facts in hand. The book is rather to be compared to Green's "English People," and it seems likely to hold for the history of Germany an analogous place. Nowhere is there to be found a clearer account of political events, nowhere a more fascinating description of town-life; art and literature are given their proper place, and discussed with discriminating taste. As a comprehensive and readable presentation of German History as interpreted by German scholarship of to-day, Professor Lamprecht's work is a great boon.

R. C. CHAPIN.

The Baronage and the Senate, or the House of Lords in the Past, the Present and the Future. By WILLIAM CHARTERIS MACPHERSON. Pp. 370. London: John Murray, 1893.

The first two hundred and seventy pages of this book are devoted to a consideration of the House of Lords, of the charges advanced against it by the Liberal party in Great Britain, and of the remedies to which the members of that party would resort in view of its supposed evils. The history and constitution of the House of Lords are briefly reviewed, and the author brings clearly to light the fact that while the peers are, in origin, a baronage, the House of Lords is by no means composed exclusively of hereditary legislators. Considerable space is taken to prove that the idea that the House of Lords is composed entirely of hereditary legislators is based on a misconception. An analysis shows that in 1892, of the 541 members of the House of Lords, 383 inherited their seats; 86 of the remainder were new peers; there were 5 Lords of Appeal; 15 peers were elected from Scotland and 26 from Ireland, adding to these the 26 bishops, we find 158, out of a total of 541, who did not inherit their seats.

The author then considers the case of the Radicals against the House of Lords, "that it is aristocratic" and "that it oppresses the people."

He endeavors to prove that both of these charges are unfounded. He maintains that the Tory peers in their opposition to the first Reform Bill and the removal of nonconformist disabilities were animated by high and worthy motives; that their opposition to the removal of Roman Catholic disabilities was not without extenuation or excuse. He further maintains that far from oppressing the people at the present day, the House of Lords is the main security that the will of the people shall be clearly ascertained in order that it may afterward prevail. He then scrutinizes the remedies proposed by the Radicals. The two principal schemes, *i. e.*, "abolition of the House of Lords" and "its conversion into a United States Senate," he considers "crude, ill-considered and impracticable."

The Radical party's charges, above considered, are unfounded, still there is a just ground for complaint "in the callous and contemptuous treatment of measures that have passed the House of Commons at the hands of the peers who as a rule take no part in politics and pay little or no attention to political questions." The author thinks that the present structure of the House of Lords needs to be modified and that this must be done by decreasing or abolishing the number of "hereditary legislators," and increasing the number who, because of certain qualifications, are appointed for life. In this reorganized upper chamber the colonies must be represented as they should be in the House of Commons. The hereditary peers should elect a certain number to represent the peerage in the House of Lords.

Part IV of the book is very satisfactory, but the first three parts are too long. The author devotes altogether too much space in them to questions of minor importance. The gist of the book is that instead of a baronage the upper chamber should be an imperial senate, containing representatives from all parts of the British Empire. "Hereditary is the essence of a baronage; selection is the essence of a senate."

J. Q. ADAMS.

University of Pennsylvania.

Europe 476-918. By CHARLES OMAN. (Periods of European History.) Pp. 532. Price, \$1.75. New York and London: Macmillan & Co., 1893.

The City-State of the Greeks and Romans. A Survey Introductory to the Study of Ancient History. By W. WARDE FOWLER. Pp. 332. Price, \$1.10. London and New York: Macmillan & Co., 1893.

In his volume on "Europe 476-918" Mr. Oman has the advantage of dealing with a period of which there exists no continuous narrative